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LIL WAYNE IS OK, JUST HIGH {page 14}

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March Madness has officially begun ◐ Metro has everything you need to know ◐ Players to watch, teams to avoid, how to fill in your bracket {pages 22-24}

DANCE PARTY

local

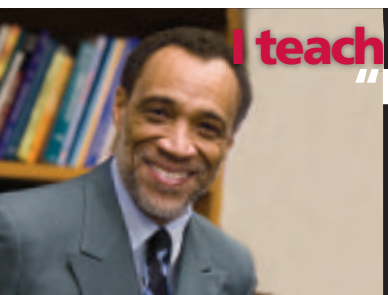
Liu kicks off mayoral bid at City Hall

◐ Comptroller speaks to crowd of hundreds {page 02}

music

SXSW: Up and coming indie acts and JT?

◐ Texas music fest gets more mainstream {page 15}



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In Manhattan and the Bronx

Violent protests cool down after community meetings

- Councilman Jumaane Williams calls for peaceful marches
- Teachers say Gray was serious about giving family a better life

Protests in East Flatbush, stemming from the shooting of 16-year-old Kimani Gray by police officers on March 9, grew calmer over the weekend, after an explosion of violence on Wednesday, March 13, resulted in 45 arrests and one police officer injured.

City Councilman Jumaane Williams, who had come under fire for comments made accusing "outsiders" of inciting unprepared teens to violence, directed most of the protesters on Friday night into a nearby church for a community discussion.

Reports of a successful Youth Empowerment Seminar on Saturday preceded another night of protests. This time, reports indicated police outnumbered protesters by 4 to 1.

Conflicting reports of Gray's involvement in gangs have piled up, from his mother telling WNYC she doesn't think her son carried a gun, but wasn't sure, to reports of Facebook photos where Gray is making gang signs.

Experts on city gangs dismissed the social media activity as indications that Kimani's gang involvement would have been low-level; while teachers spoke of a young man who "acted tough" but was serious about moving his family into a better neighborhood.

"He traveled over an hour each day from East Flatbush. ... The year and a half we had with Kimani allowed us to get to know his best self," Urban Assembly School of Design and Construction principal Matt Willoughby said.

KEVIN C DOWNS

▶ Police said protests by community members in the Flatbush neighborhood over the death of 16-year-old Kimani Gray were quieter after an explosive week.

45
Arrests were made at Wednesday night's violent protest

Danielle Tcholakian
danielle.tcholakian@metro.us

The officers involved

The cops who shot Gray were identified last week as Sergeant Mourad Mourad and Officer Jovaniel Cordova.

According to NY1, one officer was involved in two prior lawsuits for alleged civil rights violations, and the other faced three similar lawsuits.

Some of those cases reportedly involved stop-and-frisk incidents, and city officials reportedly opted to pay settlements in all five cases.

City officials insisted that settlements do not indicate an acknowledgement of any wrongdoing, and that involvement in lawsuits do not necessarily indicate guilt.

A major stop-and-frisk lawsuit against the city commences Monday morning.

In the news

Two girls found in Bronx fire

According to the NYPD, two children were found in a fatal fire in the South Bronx early Sunday morning. At 3:10 a.m., police and firefighters responded to a fire at 977 Grant Avenue. After firefighters put out the fire, police found a 7-year-old girl and a 3-year-old girl.

The 7-year-old was pronounced dead at Lincoln Hospital. The 3-year-old remains in critical condition, police report. METRO/DT

In the news

Police: Cop arrested after spying on neighbor

An NYPD officer was arrested on Friday for allegedly spying on his female neighbor, police reported.

Officer Miguel Gomez, 41, was allegedly videotaping his 21-year-old neighbor coming and going from her apartment in the Bronx. Cops said that he was not using police equipment.

Gomez is being charged with unlawful surveillance, according to cops. METRO/DT

Liu announces mayoral run to overflow crowd

EMILY JOHNSON

▶ John Liu formerly announced his run for mayor yesterday.

Comptroller John Liu announced his candidacy for mayor on the steps of City Hall on Sunday — and then announced it all over again for an overflow crowd of hundreds.

Surrounded by a multicultural coalition brandishing signs that represented all five boroughs, Liu said he would create opportunities for New Yorkers.

"I proudly announce that I am running to be mayor of the city of New York, because this is a city that makes a promise to us, that every single New Yorker has a chance to succeed," he said. Liu said he would halt the closures of underperforming schools and the controversial NYPD practice of stop-and frisk. His appearance at City Hall was only one stop in a tour that had seen him hit four of the five boroughs by 3 p.m., with stops in the Bronx planned for later that night. EMILY JOHNSON

In the news

Broken Angel House artist gets stay of eviction

Arthur Wood, the octogenarian artist who is fighting to remain in his iconic Clinton Hill artwork-cum-abode, has been granted an extra two weeks in his home, as a small housing court victory last week pushed his eviction date back to March 31.

Neighbors and community activists organized two fundraising events for Wood this past Friday: first, a "block party" in his own backyard from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m., with hot food, a DJ and live musicians; then a late-night dance party a little ways off in Fort Greene.

Wood's son, Christopher, expressed gratitude for the turnout, and said it meant a lot to his father to have the community support him.

He acknowledged the extension on the eviction date, but maintained the crux of the problem remains: As it stands, his father will be evicted and the house could be destroyed.

A petition against the eviction was rapidly gathering signatures, but the younger Wood was not sure what steps were being taken.

According to Elisabeth de Bourbon, a spokesperson at the Landmarks Preservation Commission, the Commission has not received any requests to consider the building for landmark designation. DANIELLE TCHOLAKIAN

DANIELLE TCHOLAKIAN/METRO

▶ Arthur Wood

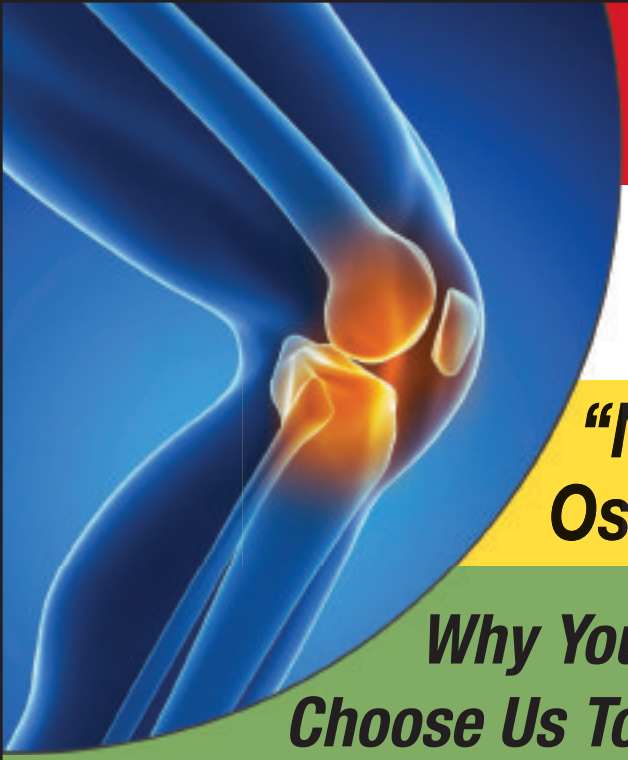
New retro look of driver's licenses aim to foil NY forgers

The New York State driver's licenses set to debut in July may look old-school, but they're the very latest in technology.

Black and white photos are designed to force ID screeners to focus on individuals' features, rather than hair color.

A hard polycarbonate card will replace the old bendable one, and an array of features such as floating "ghost images" and laser engraving will make the new licenses nearly impossible to forge.

The change is an effort combat a market for fake IDs — popular among underage drinkers, but potentially also with more serious criminals, including terrorists. METRO/EJ



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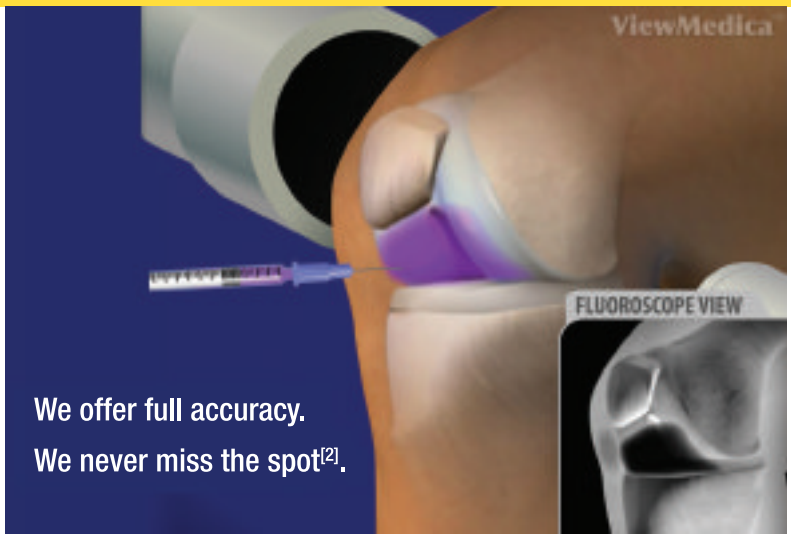

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Turkish police arrest suspect in killing of Staten Island woman

Turkish police yesterday arrested the suspected killer of Sarai Sierra, an American tourist from Staten Island whose body was found in Istanbul earlier this year, a provincial governor's office said.

The man, identified by the initials Z.T. and nicknamed Laz Ziya by Turkish media, was arrested in Reyhanli in Turkey's southern Hatay province near the border with Syria, the provincial governor's office said on its website.

After questioning, the man was handed over to judicial authorities, the governor's office said. It gave no further details.

The killing has attracted widespread media attention in a country that receives millions of tourists each year and is generally seen as a safe destination for foreign travelers. **REUTERS**

FACEBOOK

▶ Sarai Sierra of Staten Island was murdered while on vacation in Turkey. The suspected killer was arrested yesterday.

The victim

The body of 33-year-old Sarai Sierra, from Staten Island, was found in the ruins of Istanbul's old city wall after she was reported missing in late January.

Sierra, who had been travelling alone, was killed by a blow to the head.

News in brief

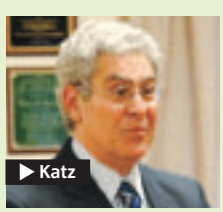
Assemblyman arrested on pot charges

A state assemblyman was arrested Thursday for alleged marijuana possession, police said.

According to New York State Police, cops arrested Stephen Katz, 59, a Republican who represents areas including Westchester, for possession of marijuana.

Katz was stopped for speeding, police said, after driving 80 miles per hour on I-87, 15 miles above the speed limit.

Officials said Katz was arrested in Coeymans, N.Y. An officer noticed an odor of marijuana, according to state police, and subsequently found a small bag of pot. **METRO/AB**



▶ Katz

FACEBOOK

'Spider-Man' film asked to take day off for Passover holiday

Not everyone is excited that "The Amazing Spider-Man 2" will be the biggest movie filmed in New York City to date.

Williamsburg residents are asking the filmmakers to skip shooting during the upcoming Passover holiday.

Councilman Stephen Levin said the production "would be a plague on the streets of South Williamsburg during this sacred holiday."

The mayor's office cautioned that no permits have been issued yet.

"Every consideration is taken by our office to accommodate residents observing religious holidays," said Marybeth Ihle, spokeswoman for the Mayor's Office of Media and Entertainment.

Julie Kuehndorf, a publicist for the film, added that the studio is working with residents and the mayor's office to "minimize any impact on the community."

"We're doing our best to be good neighbors," she said.

According to Levin's office, production would block parking between March 22 and March 27 around the Marcy Avenue Armory, where they are scheduled to film.

Residents will not be able to move their cars ahead of time because of Passover restrictions on driving, Levin said. **ALISON BOWN**

BOBBY BANK/WIREIMAGE

▶ A scene from "The Amazing Spider-Man 2"

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■ **I was skeptical.** I bought a box and it worked as advertised. Within a week I had relief. *Howard Toy, 69, Henderson, NV* ■ **It's heaven to sleep through the night.** For many years I had 6-7 sleep interruptions every night. Had urgent trips to the bathroom day and night with discomforts. I enjoy my new life. *Angus Pike, Oshawa, ON*

■ **I am truly amazed and relieved.** After 2 weeks I no longer have to get up during the night. I'm enjoying a normal sex life again. I hope a lot of men with a pride issue give this tea a shot. It's difficult to express how delighted I am. *Clarence A. Rehrig, 58, Allentown, PA*

■ **Know the truth.** This is my third year of drinking the Ezee Flow Tea. I highly recommend it. A real life saver. *Thomas M. Thurston, Forsyth, GA.* ■ **Women** suffering with incontinence, UTIs ask for Bladder Control Tea for Women #4b. Guaranteed relief within days. **No need to make claims. Bell relays 100% truthful user's free speech. No money is paid for it. No questions asked guarantee.**

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■ **Bell Blood Pressure Formulation helped me feel great.** Thank you for this wonderful product. *William Oliver, Portsmouth, VA* ■ **I have been taking Bell #26 now for one year.** My mom and brother started taking it as well. Even my pastor is on it now. Thanks! *Mary Earl, Longview, TX* ■ **I started to take Bell Blood Pressure Formulation Formulation #26.** After about 30 days my blood pressure was normal. My doctor was very happy with me. Irene Surridge, 67, Owen Sound, ON ■ **A friend recommended Bell BP Formulation!** When a friend had good results I decided to try it. After taking Bell Blood Pressure Formulation #26. It made a difference in my life. *Milton Perdomo, 68, Rego Park, NY.* **No need to make claims. Bell relays 100% truthful user's free speech. No money is paid for it. No questions asked guarantee.**

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■ **Last couple of years I tried everything.** Results with Bell Skin Disorders #60 were unbelievable. I have beautiful skin again. Thanks for giving back my self-esteem. *Nelisa Royer, 28, Doral, FL* ■ **My mom bought Bell #60.** I was skeptical. It did work quickly and better than anything else. *Christopher Seraphin, 14, Brooklyn, NY.* ■ **It worked.** I no longer have to hide at home, because I was ashamed to be seen. *Agnes Casillas, 60,New York, NY* ■ **Can wear again dresses** that are backless. My skin looks fantastic. Thank you from the bottom of my heart. *Yvette Maclean, 40, Lodi, CA* ■ **I was trying everything for years** and nothing worked. I felt physical and emotional pain having to hide. Finally I found your Bell #60. I'm so grateful and impressed about how fast it worked with amazing results. *Eulalia Isabel Sanchez Martin, 30, Brampton, ON* **Skeptics can call everybody. All are real people like you or your friends.**

#23

SNORING?

As recommended by Dr. Gifford-Jones M. D.

Here is proof that snoring can be corrupting your health and your marriage. Three out of 10 couples are considering divorce because of snoring says a major magazine article. You are not alone! An official survey says 48%of all people snore. 75% are affected, if you add non-snoring husbands that have snoring wives or vice versa. Snoring is caused by slack muscles in the throat. A common complaint is that people feel that they are not well rested in the morning. Many people wrote they are now sleeping like a babies. Their partners are delighted. This natural health product Sound Sleep #23 usually helps the first night. No side effects.

■ **College professor had lack of good sleeps with many interruptions** for last 8 years that made her tired during the day. Within 3 days taking Bell Sound Sleep #23 the terrible snoring stopped. I wake up feeling refreshed and energized. I can concentrate in a focused, happy manner. I feel delighted with this natural product. *Dr. Anele E. Heiges, 77, New York, NY* ■ **A life changing product.** The very first night I took the capsules and every night after I had a restful and wonderful sleep. It has been a God send and blessing. I am by nature a skeptic. The money-back guarantee convinced me to try it. *Jimmy Pay, 53,Gardendale, AC* ■ **3 Years on Bell Sound Sleep** #23. My wife and I are entirely satisfied. Snoring episodes have completely disappeared. This has improved our lives enormously. *Leo Fortin, 60, St-Georges, QC* ■ **Basically you saved my husband's life.** For the last 5 years my husband had very bad nights. Bell #23 was nothing short of a miracle. I have my husband back. No more snoring. No more napping during the day. I am telling all our friends. *Bonnie Johnson, 64, Wichita, KS* ■ **My life changed. Sleep now 7-8 hours.** I am a retired college professor and author of books. I have no more need to nap during the day. Nothing I tried helped until I started Bell Sound Sleep. I am so delighted with this product I would like to make motivational speeches to help others. *Carmen V. Caruso, 66, Ann Arbor, MI* **On the Bell Website we list phone numbers or email addresses of actual users of this product and all other Bell products. Most are delighted to talk about their relief.**

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In the news

WILLIAM ALATRISTE

Councilman proposes bill to ban ice picks

Ice picks are a dangerous new gang tool, and one councilman wants to ban teenagers from owning them.

Councilman and Public Safety Chair Peter Vallone introduced legislation Wednesday to ban anyone under 21 from possessing an ice pick.

Vallone said ice picks are a new, popular weapon among gangs.

"As violent criminals have become more and more afraid to carry guns out of fear of being stopped by police, they have adjusted and found new weapons to use to hurt innocent people and one another, and the law must now also adjust to stop them," Vallone said.

One example his office noted: In 2011, John Martinez, or the "Ice Pick Bandit," used one to rob six women.

The legislation would outlaw the possession or sale of ice picks to anyone under 21. ALISON BOWEN

Former Gov. Pataki endorses Gristedes mogul

Former Gov. George Pataki announced that he is endorsing John Catsimatidis, the billionaire owner of the Gristedes supermarket chain, in the mayoral race.

"John Catsimatidis has the skills, the vision and the courage needed to lead New York City. He'll make a great mayor and that's why I am endorsing him today," Pataki said.

Former Mayor Rudy Giuliani is backing Joe Lhota, former MTA chairman, in the mayoral race. LAURA SHIN

News in pictures

Revelers turn out for snowy St. Patrick's Day Parade

New Yorker of all stripes donned green and turned out for the New York City St. Patrick's Day Parade on Saturday. Bagpipers, marching bands and groups from the Emerald Isle marched up Fifth Avenue from 44th Street to 86th Street.

1: A bagpiper band marches in the parade.

2: Revelers examine some shamrock-themed products on sale at the parade.

3: A little girl shows off her Irish pride as she watches the parade pass on Fifth Avenue.

4: A flash of green is seen amongst the blue as a young girl marches with the officers from the New York Fire Department. METRO

AARON ADLER/METRO

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Pope: The world needs more mercy, less condemnation

Francis addresses hundreds of thousands in St. Peter's Square as well as small local parish

Pope Francis, speaking to an overflow crowd of more than 150,000 in St. Peter's Square, urged the world yesterday to be more forgiving and merciful and not so quick to condemn other people's failures.

"A little bit of mercy makes the world less cold and more just," he told the cheering crowd from the window of the papal apartments overlooking the square.

Four days after his election, the former Cardinal Jorge Bergoglio of Argentina spoke both as pope and as parish priest — earlier he said Mass for a few hundred Vatican workers in a tiny church just inside the city-state's walls.

Chants of "Francesco, Francesco, Francesco," the pope's name in Italian, reverberated through the square and down a long boulevard leading to the Tiber River.

Since his election on Wednesday as the first non-European pope in nearly 1,300 years, Francis has signaled a sharp change of style from his more aloof predecessor, Benedict, and laid out a clear moral path for the 1.2-billion-member church, which is beset by scandals and strife.

"I came because I love this pope," said Anna Barone, an elderly woman from southern Italy as she craned her neck to get a glimpse of him. **REUTERS**

PHOTO BY SERVIZIO FOTOGRAFICO L'OSSERVATORE ROMANO VIA GETTY IMAGES

▶ Pope Francis greets the faithful outside the church of Santa Anna in the Vatican.

A little too trusting?

Pope Francis gave his security detail a taste of his new papal style on Sunday by stepping outside a Vatican gate to greet a boisterous crowd of well-wishers.

- The pope said Sunday morning Mass in the small church of Santa Anna, just a few feet inside the gate of the same name, for Vatican workers who frequent it as their parish.
- He arrived in a black car, again shunning the papal limousine, and immediately went over to hundreds of people who had gathered at the gate to get a glimpse of him.
- He greeted people and kissed children, and several times, as more people reached out, smiled and pointed to the plastic watch on his wrist to signal that he had to go inside to say Mass.
- After the service, still wearing his purple liturgical vestments, he stood outside the church like a simple parish priest and greeted each person as they came out.
- Before driving away, he again went back to the gate to wave, to the obvious discomfort of his security detail. **REUTERS**

His message

"Brothers and sisters, good morning," he said, using a familiar style that has already become his hallmark.

He wove his address from the window as well as his earlier homily around the Gospel story of the crowd that wanted to stone a woman who had committed adultery but was saved by Jesus.

Jesus told them "let he among you who is without sin cast the first stone" and then told the woman to "go and sin no more."

"I think even we are sometimes like these people, who on the one hand want to listen to Jesus, but on the other hand, sometimes we like to stone others and condemn others. The message of Jesus is this: mercy," he said at the morning Mass.

Quoted

"The Lord never tires of forgiving, never! It is we who tire of asking for forgiveness."

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Judge finds two teens guilty in Steubenville rape case

Two high school football players from Ohio were found guilty yesterday of raping a 16-year-old girl at a party last summer while she was in a drunken stupor in a case that gained national exposure through social media.

Ohio authorities also promised yesterday to continue the investigation to determine if other crimes had been committed.

Trent Mays, 17, and Ma'lik Richmond, 16, two members of Steubenville's football team, were found delinquent in the sexual assault of the girl in the early morning of Aug. 12 when witnesses said she was too drunk to move or speak.

Judge Tom Lipps ordered Richmond held in a juvenile detention facility for at least one year and Mays at least two years. The juvenile system could hold them until age 21.

FACEBOOK

▶ Social media played a big role on how the case was portrayed.

27

27 partiers were interviewed — but many witnesses could be called to testify before a grand jury.

Both were required to register as juvenile sex offenders.

The defendants could be heard sobbing after Lipps announced his decision in the non-jury, juvenile court case. Mays also was found delinquent on a second charge — taking and sending a picture of the girl to other people.

Mays and Richmond apologized to the victim before Lipps imposed detention. Both had denied the charges and said any sex that occurred was consensual.

"I had no intention to do anything like that," said Richmond, who walked up to the girl's mother in the courtroom and apologized to her.

"I forgive you," she replied.

Afterward, the girl's mother said the defendants displayed a lack of human compassion or "any moral code."

"This does not define who my daughter is," she said in a statement. "She will persevere, grow and move on. I have pity for you both. I hope you fear the Lord, repent for your actions and pray hard for forgiveness."

Richmond's attorney, Walter Madison, said yesterday that they would appeal the decision. **REUTERS**

Ohio AG to continue investigation

Ohio Attorney General Mike DeWine said yesterday he would seek a grand jury investigation to look deeper into the events surrounding the rape of a 16-year-old girl while she was in a drunken stupor last summer at a party in Steubenville, Ohio.

A juvenile judge yesterday found high school football players Trent Mays, 17, and Ma'lik Richmond, 16, delinquent in the sex assault of the girl in the early morning of Aug. 12 when witnesses said she was too drunk to move or speak.

DeWine said that while they had conducted an extensive investigation, 16 people, mostly juveniles, had refused to cooperate and they could not bring a finality to it without convening a grand jury. **REUTERS**

GETTY IMAGES

▶ DeWine

16

DeWine said that while they had conducted an extensive investigation, 16 people, mostly juveniles, had refused to cooperate and they could not bring a finality to it without convening a grand jury.

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In the news

GETTY IMAGES

Venezuela's Maduro urges Obama to halt 'plot' against rival

CARACAS. Venezuela's acting president urged U.S. leader Barack Obama to stop what he called a plot by the Pentagon and the Central Intelligence Agency to kill his opposition rival and trigger a coup before an April 14 election.

Nicolas Maduro said the plan was to blame his opponent's murder on the OPEC nation's government and to "fill Venezuelans with hate" as they prepare to go to vote following the death of socialist leader Hugo Chavez. **REUTERS**

Deal likely to keep US elite forces in key Afghan province

KABUL. Afghan and U.S. officials are working on a compromise deal to allow American special forces to stay in a strategically key province near the capital in return for full Afghan control of a controversial jail.

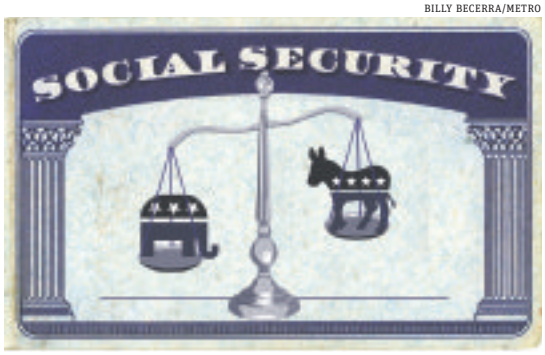
President Hamid Karzai's decision to expel special forces from Wardak province has angered U.S. defense officials who worry their exit could allow insurgents to strengthen their presence in the area.

U.S. special forces tasked with fighting the Taliban were scheduled to leave the province a week ago, but U.S. and Afghan officials have told Reuters they are still operating.

The U.S. partly handed over the prison and around 3,000 suspected Taliban fighters to Afghan control last year, but has not transferred hundreds of Taliban fighters to Afghan custody over concerns they will be released. **REUTERS**

GOP, president differ in flexibility on tax reform

BILLY BECERRA/METRO



Leading congressional Republicans said yesterday a broad deal with President Barack Obama on deficit reduction and entitlement reform remains possible but differed over potential flexibility on taxes, with the House speaker and budget leader not bending.

The top Republican in Congress, House of Representatives Speaker John Boehner, and Budget Committee Chairman Paul Ryan also agreed with Obama's assessment that the United States was not currently in a debt crisis, but that one was looming.

Ryan, whose budget proposal last week was dismissed by Democrats, quoted former Republican President Ronald Reagan's 1980s view of dealing with the Soviet Union, saying that with Obama, he believes in the policy of "trust but verify."

Obama has engaged in a couple of weeks of outreach to Republican and Democratic lawmakers — some have called it a "charm offensive" — but the prospects of a large deficit reduction deal by midyear remained unclear.

Obama is advocating more tax increases on the wealthiest Americans coupled with new spending cuts to help curb deficits that have topped $1 trillion in each of the past four years.

Such a deal could include curbing spending on costly entitlement programs like the Social Security retirement program and the Medicare health insurance program for the elderly and disabled.

Speaking on "Fox News Sunday," Senator Bob Corker, a Tennessee Republican, said: "There, by the way, is a chance on a deal. I know the president is saying the right things. And we have an opportunity over the next four to five months."

Corker underscored the need for Democratic willingness on entitlement reform and signaled Republican flexibility on taxes. **REUTERS**

Quoted

"I think Republicans, if they saw true entitlement reform, would be glad to look at tax reform that generates additional revenue." SEN. BOB CORKER

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3 Carats.....	Up To $26,000	3 Carats.....	Up To $18,000	3 Carats.....	Up To $15,000
4 Carats.....	Up To $42,000	4 Carats.....	Up To $32,000	4 Carats.....	Up To $28,000
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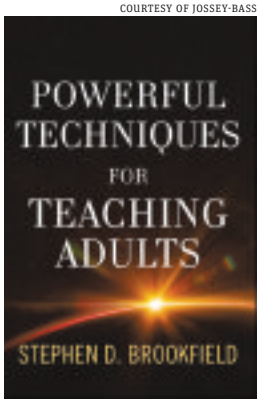

Power plays in the classroom

Stephen Brookfield's latest book takes an honest look at power in academic settings

University of St. Thomas professor Stephen D. Brookfield is perhaps the most prolific writer on adult higher education in the U.S. His books use personal experience to flesh out his teaching philosophy. Brookfied's latest, "Powerful Techniques for Teaching Adults," takes a look at power dynamics.

"Power is everywhere in the classroom. You can't avoid it," he says, from his office in Saint Paul, Minn. "So I thought, instead of writing a book that's full of these approaches — which is probably what people are expecting — let's examine how these power dynamics skew the way teaching techniques are experienced by students."

"Powerful Techniques" touches on a number of concepts Brookfield has written about before: developing critical thinking, facilitating discussion, utilizing the creative arts. But this time the author emphasizes the adjustments he has made to his teaching style due to notions of power and trust.

Though Brookfield is still a believer in student-controlled, self-directed learning, he now introduces the concept with more than a touch of caution.

"If I'm asking people to make decisions about the curriculum, or I'm involving them in setting up the grading system, one of the responses I often get is: 'You're playing a game with us and we don't know what your agenda is," he explains. "So now I begin by saying, 'Here are the non-negotiable things about the class; here are the things I want you to decide; and here are places where we can negotiate.' By being less naive about us all having the same power, I'm able to gain a student's trust and build something from there."

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In the news

Pell Grants and the future of college

The House Budget Committee is debating freezing the maximum Pell Grant award — now set at $5,645 — for years to come, along with opening them up to future cuts. F. King Alexander is the president of California State University, Long Beach, and he believes that the government-funded Pell Grants are vital to an economically diverse student body.

Are you concerned about the status of Pell Grants for future students?
Yes. I think we lost a significant battle two years ago when Congress cut Pells for summer school. Summer classes are very important to working students and poor students. So, we've already had a cut in Pell. We can't afford that at a time when tuition is rising because of state reductions.

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

F. King Alexander

What is a Pell Grant?

A Pell Grant is money provided to low-income students by the U.S. government to help pay for tuition at an undergraduate college or university. Since 1972, it has been the largest federal grant program for college students.

Pell Grants cover just a fraction of the tuition at an expensive school. Why doesn't the Pell adjust based on the cost of tuition?
That seems like a great idea on the face of it. However, if Pells were significantly higher, you'd run the risk of increasing the incentive for institutions to escalate their prices. Our campus charges $6,500 per year in tuition and fees. Community colleges hover around $3,500. The national public university average is around $8,200. So Pell does cover about two-thirds the cost for a vast majority of students.

What kinds of students get Pell Grants?
To me, the beauty of Pell is that it's weighted on income, not price. State student-aid programs tend to be price-sensitive, which gives advantages to institutions that raise their prices. On my campus, we have 13,000 Pell students. If you give one student four times the Pell of another, you'll deny three students access to college.

METRO/BW

CREATAS

▶ Budget pressure hits hard for aspiring students in the military.

Quoted

"One of the biggest incentives to join the military is the 100 percent tuition guarantee. We don't make much money, so tuition assistance is a big benefit recruiters use to get people to join the military. A lot of people in the military serve their country and protect it, but it backfires when the country tries to take away from us what they promised."

AIRMAN MICHAEL BUENO, WHO WORKS THE OVERNIGHT SHIFT AT DYESS AIR FORCE BASE IN ABILENE, TEXAS, SO THAT HE CAN ATTEND COLLEGE DURING THE DAY

Under the gun: Spending cuts hurt military education

For Airman First Class Stephen Sinatra, the budget cuts prompted by deadlock in Washington have turned his plans upside down. Sinatra, who is in the U.S. Air Force stationed in Washington, D.C., is taking online college classes thanks to a tuition assistance program for members of the military that has been halted as a money-saving move.

"I don't make much money," Sinatra says. "To be able to utilize this money to go to school and better myself, it helps a lot. That's almost what keeps me to be motivated to keep going in the military."

Comments left on military message boards and Facebook show widespread disappointment with the sudden termination of the tuition assistance program. It is not a part of the military contract, like the G.I. Bill for veterans benefits, but tuition assistance is considered an incentive to enlist.

"I have seen a lot of people who have lost their motivation to be in the military when they take away the one perk that people seem to enjoy," Sinatra says.

Several colleges have moved to defer tuition charges for the coming term to help military members who are already enrolled. Two senators — one Democrat, one Republican — have introduced legislation to bring back the tuition assistance.

Students who have already enrolled in classes using the tuition assistance program will be allowed to complete them, according to a memo from the Army announcing the program's cancelation.

"This suspension is necessary given the significant budget execution challenges caused by the combined effects of a possible yearlong continuing resolution and sequestration," the Army memo says. "The Army understands the impacts of this action and will reevaluate should the budgetary situation improve." The Marines, Air Force and Coast Guard have also suspended their tuition assistance programs. **REUTERS**

4.5K

The program, which provides up to $4,500 per year per student, is one victim of sequestration cuts.

$85B

The $85 billion in cuts began on March 1 after Congress was unable to resolve fiscal fights.

The New Muslims Program

The New Muslims Program is a three month program designed to help new Muslim converts learn the basics of Islamic faith. Students will learn the absolute essentials of how to practice the five pillars of Islam, and receive guidance and support while making Islam part of their daily lives.

There are two sections available for this course:
Saturdays starting April 6th from 12pm-3pm OR Tuesdays starting April 9th from 6pm-9pm
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Non-Muslims who are interested in learning about Islam are also welcome!

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THE WORD

Meredith Engel's take on the world of gossip @meredithatmetro meredith.engel@metro.us

– Dorothy Robinson will return on March 20.

The feed ...

Checking in with some of Hollywood's biggest names to see what they've been up to — in their own words, in 140 characters or fewer.

Today, Emma Watson is dubious, Jason Mraz needs some loving, Seth Rogen has opinions and Sarah Silverman refuses to feel ashamed.

@EmWatson
Who here actually thinks I would do 50 Shades of Grey as a movie? Like really. For real. In real life.

@jason_mraz
Anybody got access to a kuala bear? Looking for a hug.

@Sethrogen
Call me crazy, but I prefer "Wrath of the Titans" over "Clash of the Titans."

@SarahKSilverman
I'm not going to let the fact that there's butter on my cell phone make me feel bad about myself & my choices

Lil Wayne not dying, just drank too much sizzurp

Things looked pretty dark for **Lil Wayne** on Friday: TMZ reported that the "Lollipop" rapper was in a coma and being read his last rites at Cedars-Sinai Medical Center in L.A. after suffering multiple seizures. But don't worry! "TMZ was so off base," a source close to the star tells Us Weekly. "Wayne is fine." The rapper took to Twitter a few hours after TMZ's report to confirm his well-being: "I'm good everybody. Thx for the prayers and love." His rep also told Us Weekly that "Wayne is doing well."

Ah yes, it was all a misunderstanding. Wayne was "just coming down off the high" from sizzurp, the source says, and that he's "not close to death or anything."

Sizzurp, for those not well-versed in recreational drugs, is "a highly addictive, narcotic concoction of prescription-strength cough syrup, sugary sodas and hard candies, typically sipped out of Styrofoam cups," the drug barons at Us Weekly explain. The cough syrups contain codeine and promethazine, which leads to what the mag calls a "sleepy high." The kids these days enjoy it because it's cheap and easy to make, Us Weekly adds.

Hey, at least Wayne is honest: If we have to hear another report of a star being treated for "exhaustion," we're going to lose it.

▶ We first started questioning Lil Wayne's decision-making skills when we saw those facial tattoos.

Quoted

"Thx for the prayers and love."

LIL WAYNE ON TWITTER

Strike a pose

▶ Well, that's certainly one way to "Express Yourself."

ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

Madonna and Anderson Cooper smooched as she presented him with the Vito Russo Award at Saturday's GLAAD Media Awards in NYC. Never one to shy away from controversy, the singer wore a Boy Scouts uniform to the event to protest the Boy Scouts' banning of gay scouts and leaders.

Seacrest, out

Ryan Seacrest and **Julianne Hough** have split after more than two years together, People.com reported on Friday. Sources close to the couple said their busy work schedules contributed, but that they'll remain friends (because that's what everyone says at first). The duo — he's 38, she's 24 — lived together and were often seen jet-setting around the world, from Italy to St. Barts to Paris. On Saturday, in a classic "let's make him jealous" move, Hough tweeted a photo of herself laughing with friends at the beach, adding #friends arethebesttherapy.

Julianne, look on the bright side: At least you won't have to wait an hour for the bathroom mirror anymore.

Talking points

DeVito, Perlman back together

For once, some good news in the world of celebrity relationships: **Danny DeVito** and **Rhea Perlman** are reportedly back together after separating last fall, according to People magazine. "They love each other," a friend of the couple says. "Always have and always will." Their split stunned Hollywood, as the couple had been married for 30 years when they split.

The ring's just being fixed, OK?

Miley Cyrus has an explanation for why she was spotted without her engagement ring recently amid rumors of trouble between her and fiance **Liam Hemsworth**: The ring was off getting repaired. Cyrus responded to a friend on Twitter recently who was complaining about having to get her own engagement ring repaired, adding, "That's the worst! I just had a similar situation except when it happens to me then everyone says my wedding is off."

The royal squabbles

Apparently all couples fight, including **Prince William** and **Kate Middleton**. In the new documentary "Our Queen," British Olympic boxer **Anthony Ogogo** reveals that Middleton confided to him that both she and her husband have a competitive streak that comes out particularly when they're playing Scrabble, according to the Daily Mail. "She said when they play Scrabble they don't usually finish a game, because somebody got in a mood and slammed it shut," Ogogo says.

Packed clubs, big predictions and new sounds at SXSW 2013

SXSW

NOLAN GAWRON
TWITTER: @METROUSMUSIC

NOLAN GAWRON/METRO

▶ Sixth Street in Austin teems with musicians, fans and media every March.

▶ The L.A. band Wildcat! Wildcat! were a highlight of this year's SXSW.

Pangea

NOLAN GAWRON/METRO

As SXSW comes to a close, the crowded streets of Austin will return to a more relaxed status quo. But the musical party that began here last Tuesday will have a rippling effect over the next few months as members of the press share their favorite findings of the festival and let the public in on their discoveries. After seeing close to 100 bands, here are a few of the best.

Metro's list of "must-see" acts published last week was spot-on, if I do say so myself. **Nick Cave** put on an epic set in a rare outdoor performance. **Thurston Moore's Chelsea Light Moving** played their most intriguing gig, with skateboarders riding a half-pipe in the background. **King Tuff** proved he's even tougher live than on record, while **Jim James** took people by surprise with his new direction.

Our award for the **Best New Foreign Act** goes to **Indians**. With music emanating from the mind of Copenhagen's Soren Lokke Juul, he says he only had three songs to his name before signing to the 4AD label last year. "I never even thought about making a record," he said after one show. "I just made songs because I felt like I needed to express something." Playing eight shows in five days, Juul performed with a band, filling in his somber synth songs with shimmering atmospherics and heavy-handed electronic drums.

The **Most Energetic Show** was delivered by **Pangea** at a club called the Volstead. Pangea wasn't even on the schedule, but word got out and the small room was packed and pleased. Playing a set somewhere between punk and metal, they varied speeds but always remained heavy. The drummer hit so hard it didn't seem like the skins could sustain the beating. The crowd followed along with the passionate performance by moshing and crowd-surfing. At one point, the speakers almost fell over. I'm pretty sure that's not supposed to happen anymore. But it did. And it was special — but is not for the faint of heart.

The Best Overall New Band is **Wildcat! Wildcat!**. I had a feeling about them based on the name alone. And wandering into one of their many shows, I was taken. A four-piece, each with a mic, two keyboardists, bass and drums, the band lies somewhere between rock and electro. Their four-part vocal falsetto harmonies make them stand out and add warmth to their summery sound. While the members have known each other since they were kids and each have played music together before, the band only began last year and have only released two songs. One of the hardestworking bands at the festival, they played 10 shows in five days and seemed to be having more fun than any other band I saw. They also covered the Tears for Fears song "Everybody Wants to Rule the World." Sure, everybody wants to, but these guys just might get to.

#Informationoverload @SXSW

▶ Prince played for more than two and a half hours on Saturday.

GETTY IMAGES

Long gone are the days of walking the streets of Austin with a printed schedule and a highlighter. In an atmosphere that is already all about sensory overload, technology ruled SXSW this year. Parties were announced via Twitter, there was an app for schedules and oftentimes when you got to the shows most of the audience members had their heads down to text or tweet. Also, if you didn't have a platinum badge, the only way to get into the Prince show was to have a Samsung Galaxy phone and complete a scavenger hunt. Prince wasn't the only megastar to get Austin buzzing. Justin Timberlake, Green Day, Stevie Nicks and Dave Grohl also took part in SXSW, performing exclusive shows in much smaller venues than they usually play.

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You don't know Dick

Director R.J. Cutler discusses making his documentary 'The World According to Dick Cheney' On sitting down with the cagey former veep and keeping his own politics out of the way

Dick Cheney refers to himself as the "most consequential" vice president in American history, and a new, incredibly candid documentary by filmmaker R.J. Cutler ("A Perfect Candidate," "The September Issue") delves into just what those consequences might be — though Cheney quickly proves himself to be not one for reevaluation. After premiering the film at the Sundance Film Festival earlier this year, Cutler brings his calm and levelheaded portrait of the divisive political figure to Showtime.

Was it difficult to set aside whatever opinions you might have had of Cheney to make this film?

I mean, of course I have opinions about him. I have my politics, but this isn't really a film about politics — from my perspective. I've made films about people whose politics I agree with and I've made films about people whose politics I don't agree with. In this case, I'm exploring the man but I'm also telling his story from what I believe will be a rich and valuable historical perspective as time passes. So my politics are kind of beside the point — really beside the point. I'm not interested in films about my politics. I'm interested in Dick Cheney. I could not possibly care less about the politics of a documentary filmmaker. I was curious about who he was and how he thinks and what led him to the decisions he made and how he acquired the power that he had and what he did with that power once it was acquired.

What do you think of the manner in which Bush and Cheney have, in a way, retreated from the public stage since leaving office?

[Former] Vice President Cheney has not shied away from the public eye and has not resisted the temptation to opine on the current administration and its policies — and its relationship to the policies he supported when he was in office. He appears to be breaking the mold in terms of that return to center stage. We do live in a moment where the opportunity to return to center stage is far more present than it was eight years, 12 years, 16 years ago, 20

Q&A

What was the biggest surprise for you in your dealings with Cheney for this film?

I think I was most struck by the manner in which he discussed honor and duty. He felt that when put up against each other, there's no question that duty trumps honor and that in fact the debate is a nonstarter. I'd understood honor to be a defining characteristic of our country and the way we choose to act so that we are understood in the world. And when Cheney dismissed honor as a value, I was really very struck by that.

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▶ R.J. Cutler, left, spoke to Dick Cheney, right, for "The World According to Dick Cheney," now on Showtime OnDemand.

years ago. But even in that context, I think it's interesting how much he's staying in the fray. But you know, there are no laws or rules that say you can't remain in the fray. [Former President] Bill Clinton has remained in the fray in a different way. He hasn't really retreated. Former President [George W.] Bush seems to be laying pretty low in the way that former presidents historically have done. I know he's given a speech or two, but I don't really feel like we're hearing from him in the way we've consistently [heard] from Cheney.

There was a lot of conjecture about Cheney while he was in office, especially in the second term, from social critics and comedians. Was it hard to avoid that level of discourse?

It's not at all difficult to avoid the level of discourse because I focused on serious-minded people who examined his life and career and had written extensively about it. It's an extremely prominent group of supporters and detractors. You know, the emotion of the debate and the more extreme theories that Cheney's detractors developed. Listen, I understand why people are emotional about him. As a citizen, [I] share a lot of those emotions. But as a filmmaker it's very easy to separate what's emotional from what the evidence supports.

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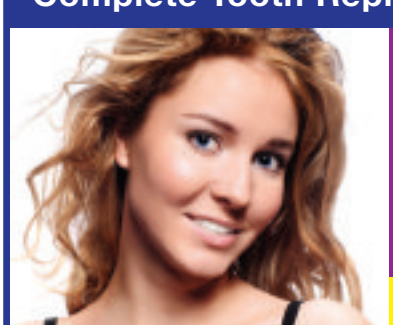

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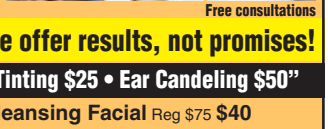

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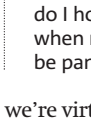

KIM SCHNEIDERMAN, MSW, LCSW

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The question

"I've been searching for a job for five months and I'm getting discouraged. I've done all the right things — networking, consulting a career counselor, etc. — and still nothing has worked out. Friends tell me I shouldn't stress — I'm young and it's just a matter of time. But how do I hold on to hope when nothing seems to be panning out?"

Every life is an unfolding story with bright spots, low points and plot twists. When people lose hope, it is usually because they mistake difficult chapters in their lives for the entire plotline, and they overlook important life lessons that such chapters have to offer.

Take the 2006 blockbuster, "The Pursuit of Happyness." The true rags-to-riches film chronicles exactly 28 chapters in the life of Chris Gardener, a single father who battles homelessness and ridiculous odds to earn a coveted entry-level position at a major San Francisco brokerage firm. The genius of this film is that 27 of the chapters, wrapped into gritty little headings like "Locked Out," "Being Stupid" and "Riding the Bus," are about the "Pursuit" part of the equation. Only the last chapter, as the narrator points out, is titled "Happiness."

If Gardener had gotten stuck in one of these chapters, misinterpreting his difficulties as a never-ending story of struggle and victimization, he may have failed to muster the courage and resilience to succeed. Consequently, the film might have been called "Giving Up," and its message about triumph over adversity would have been lost.

Of course, it's so much easier to accept the meaning of difficult chapters and heart-wrenching scenes when it's happening to someone else, and we're virtually assured of a positive outcome (after all, the film's title suggests a Hollywood happy ending).

But what if you could see your life as a major motion picture? Imagine that you're the main character and the plotline is about "a talented young professional battling unemployment." Ask yourself, "What is this chapter about?" Give it a name, and see if you can write a paragraph summary in the third-person voice, as if you were a movie critic giving a positive review. While this may seem counterintuitive, psychological studies show that people are more likely to view their lives favorably at a distance than up close.

Conflicts in novels and films shape the plot and move the story forward, presenting the main character with opportunities to overcome obstacles, leading to epiphanies, life lessons and psychological rebirth. After writing the summary, ask yourself, "What life lessons can this character learn from this time? Who are his supporting characters and how can they help him? What tools does he need to move to the next chapter? Where has he found hope in the past and how might he find it now?"

Once you have identified the chapters and deciphered their meaning, you may find it easier to weave the fragments of your life into a meaningful narrative that values the subtle, personal victories that build character. This can help you embrace life's inevitable trials as purposeful experiences that won't last forever.

*— **Kim Schneiderman, MSW, LCSW,** is a psychotherapist and former journalist with a private practice in New York City. This column is not intended to be used as a substitute for a private consultation with a mental health professional, nor is this therapist to be held liable for any actions taken as a result of this column. If you have any concerns related to the content of this column, please make an appointment with a licensed mental health professional. E-mail Kim your questions at **askkim@metro.us**.*

mywellbeing

Combat soldiers prone to violent crimes, study says

British soldiers who have served in Iraq and Afghanistan — particularly young men and those who have seen active combat — are more likely to commit violent crimes than their civilian counterparts, according to research published on Friday.

The study of almost 14,000 British soldiers deployed to Iraq and Afghanistan is the first to examine the link between military service and violent crime by using official criminal records.

Researchers said the findings could help military officials improve their risk assessment of violence among serving and ex-military personnel.

They stressed that although the study points to a serious problem for those affected, it does not mean all ex-soldiers will become violent criminals.

"Just as with post traumatic stress disorder, this is not a common outcome in military populations," says study leader Simon Wessely, co-director of the Centre for Military Health Research at King's College London.

"Overall you must remember that of those who serve in combat, 94 percent of those who come back will not offend."

The study found that those in combat roles were more than 50 percent more likely than those in non-combat roles to commit assaults or threaten violence after returning. **REUTERS**

70-80%

Men who had multiple traumatic combat experiences had a 70 to 80 percent higher risk of becoming violent criminals.

Violent offending was most common among young men from the lower ranks of the army, researchers said.

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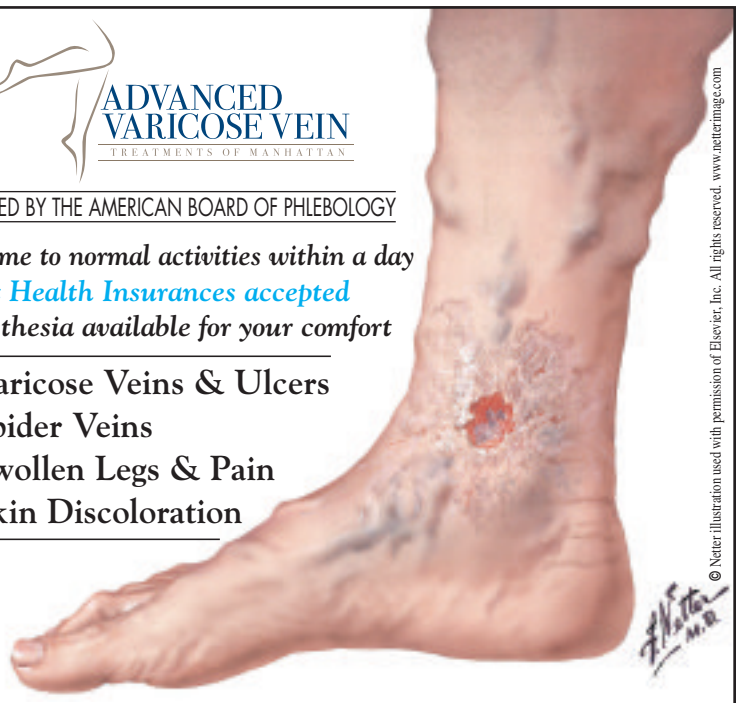

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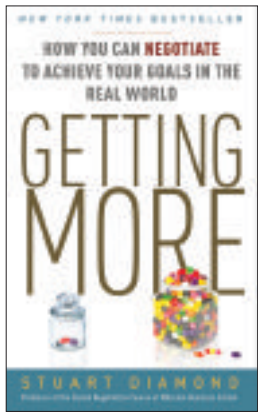
Negotiating ninja

FINN PARTNERS

▶ Stuart Diamond makes sure his students know how to get the most from negotiations at Wharton Business School.



From the lectern at Wharton Business School to the candy-colored halls of Google — not to mention an upcoming trip to a military base in Afghanistan — Stuart Diamond is a ninja master of negotiating. His book "Getting More: How You Can Negotiate to Succeed in Work and Life" teaches how to get the most from their interactions. Diamond says the key to negotiation is to have a good conversation. So that's what we did, and here is what we learned:

Focus on your skills

Experience is not why people give you a job. It's all about skills. I encourage people to figure out not what experience they have, but what skills they can offer — it's the skill the employer wants. I once counseled a doctor about moving into a financial consulting career. He had leadership abilities, he was organized and he had a vision. He said, "You can teach me the financial stuff I need to know," and he was right. People assume experience means skills, but it doesn't.

It's just a talk

A good negotiation is just a conversation. The less stressful it is, the better.

Attitude is really important

▶ If you have a can-do attitude and you're willing to work any time and anywhere, and if you find solutions not problems, that's what will get you the job. If someone has a lot of experience and bad attitude, I wouldn't take them over a person with no experience and a great attitude.

When somebody is sitting across the table looking at you, they're thinking, "Can I stand this person every day?" It's not a game or a dance — it's just a talk.

Think about next year

A lot of people think that it's important to get the best salary you can going in. I don't think that's true. It's important to get a commitment for them to pay you more if you add value going forward. The salary they're hiring you for is budgeted — but people are more willing to pay out of additional future revenues. What will they pay you next year? People hardly ever ask that, but they should.

Know what they want

Finding out the pictures in their head is the most important way to get more. My first question to an employer is: "Why are you looking for somebody?" I want to know who they are and what's in their head. I once applied [for a job] at Morgan Stanley. I said: What criteria do you use to hire people? The interviewer replied, "What criteria should I use?" I listed all the things I was good at and she hired me! The more you know about the other party, the more you know what to do.

Julia Furlan
julia.furlan@metro.us

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EXAM NO. 3102 FILING DATE: 3/6/13 - 3/26/13 APPLICATION FEE: $61.00 (non-refundable)
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EXAM NO. 3103 FILING DATE: 3/6/13 - 3/26/13 APPLICATION FEE: $82.00 (non-refundable)
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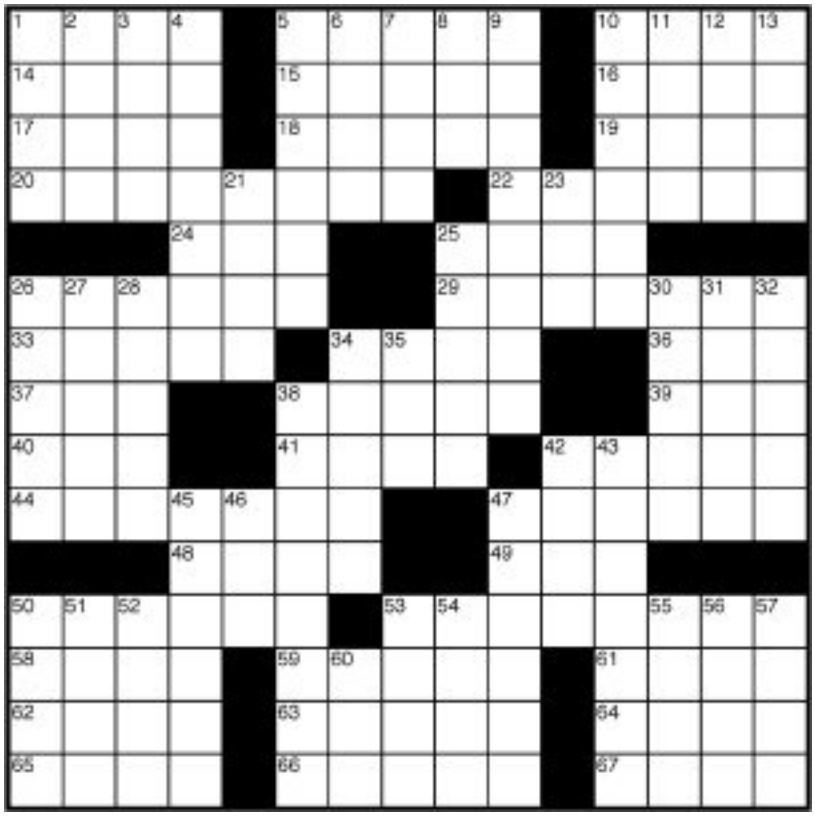

Across
1 Hot month
5 Deciduous tree
10 Burger mate
14 Opera highlight
15 Woody or Steve
16 Eclipse, to an ancient
17 Distort
18 Priggish
19 Standing
20 Ice hockey play (2 wds.)
22 Colorful annual
24 Big Ben numeral
25 Boot part
6 Sherbet flavor
29 Massaged
33 Scratchy
34 Hillerman detective
36 Day before
37 Banned bug spray
38 Streams forth
39 Morsel
40 Always, to Byron
41 Na+ and Cl-
42 Jet set
44 Splendidly
47 Hindu incarnation
48 Places
49 Walk quietly
50 Horses pull it
53 Simpsons' neighbor
58 Davenport's state
59 Of the hipbone
61 Viking name
62 Drop anchor
63 Third planet out
64 Risque
65 Black as night
66 Dishwasher cycle
67 Wild plum

Down
1 Shark flick
2 Europe-Asia range
3 Luigi's dollar, once
4 Kennel noise
5 Golfer's iron
6 Low voice
7 — du jour
8 Wahine's welcome
9 Gridiron pair (2 wds.)
10 Iris covering
11 Arab sultanate
12 Filmmaker — Riefenstahl
13 "Diana" singer
21 Weary exhale
23 Dot in the Seine
25 Misrepresents
26 Gavel-banger's cry
27 Aaron Copland work
28 Film cowboy Gene —
30 Ledger entry
31 Musical about Peron
32 Discourage
34 Jades
35 Sweetie-pie
38 More grungy
42 John, in Wales
43 Climbing devices
45 Honey factory
46 Wheel nut
47 Geronimo's tribe
50 — Valley, Calif.
51 Weird-sounding bird
52 Furry Jedi ally
53 Granular snow
54 Back muscles
55 Indian town
56 "Miami Vice" cop
57 Kind of terrier
60 China's Zhou En- —

Horoscope

♓ Pisces **Feb. 20-March 20.** You're likely to be popular with friends and relatives, with some even visiting you unexpectedly. Thankfully, you won't mind and will make everyone feel welcome.

♈ Aries **March 21-April 19.** With your curious mind, not much is likely to escape your attention. Plus, when you spot something new, you'll want to share it with the whole world.

♉ Taurus **April 20-May 20.** Your best source of gain is likely to lie in a familiar realm. Instead of trying to explore a new area, rely on who and what you know.

♊ Gemini **May 21-June 20.** Don't hesitate to take on several assignments simultaneously, even if they are unrelated to one another. You'll find that the busier you are, the better you're likely to function.

♋ Cancer **June 21-July 22.** It's best to continue to keep a secret ambition to yourself. Talking about it could tip off the competition, and they would steal your idea without hesitation if you let them.

♌ Leo **July 23-Aug. 22.** It isn't likely to be a single large expenditure that gets you in trouble, but an accumulation of many small, careless purchases.

♍ Virgo **Aug. 23-Sept. 22.** Most of the gratification you'll experience today will come from situations in which you use your mental prowess and resourcefulness to circumvent obstacles.

♎ Libra **Sept. 23-Oct. 23.** Your intense curiosity could make certain companions feel uncomfortable if you're not careful, especially if you question them about issues that they consider too personal.

♏ Scorpio **Oct. 24-Nov. 22.** You'll be so at ease when it comes to utilizing your attributes properly that it will take an especially sharp adversary to best you at anything.

♐ Sagittarius **Nov. 23-Dec. 21.** Although a strong, independent effort should produce satisfactory results, you'll be even more effective in partnership arrangements. Team up whenever you can.

♑ Capricorn **Dec. 22-Jan. 19.** Most of the time, we need some form of material motivation to get us moving — but not so for you today. What drives you is your great pride in your work.

♒ Aquarius **Jan. 20-Feb. 19.** Although you're likely to be well organized, this will be true only up to a point. You're likely to leave too much of what you should be taking care of up to chance.

BERNICE BEDE OSOL

Solution to weekend's crossword

Letters

Movie spoilers need to do a disappearing act

RE: "THE INOFFENSIVE 'BURT WONDERSTONE'" (METRO, MARCH 15-17) Was this a review, or was it a summation of the entire film? Just like current movie trailers fail to do their purpose, which is to tell the basic story without giving too much away, this article did nothing to make me want to go out and see the film, because you ruined the ending (told the entire movie outright). Thanks for that, I was looking forward to not actually knowing everything before I walked into the theater.

INDIA PEARL, VIA E-MAIL

Petulant president closes White House

This president has no right to close the White House to tours of school children because he didn't get his way and was forced to cut back on some spending. The White House is not his house, it's ours. Those very cuts didn't do anything to actual spending, which will still exceed last year's. The president's action only confirms his hatred for any opposition to his grand view. The welfare of America's most valued assets aren't a priority.

JOHN E. BEVAN, VIA E-MAIL

Newsflash: Pope not accountable to social trends

RE: "VATICAN'S CLOCK RUNS SLOW" (METRO, MARCH 15-17) How disheartened I was to read opinion columnist Tom Foreman's unfair comments and sarcasm about Pope Francis I. He hasn't even been installed and already the media is looking for something to attack him with. He stated, "Even if he convenes a great council of cardinals ... changes ... could still be a long way off." One thing we must always remember is that the purpose of the Holy Father is to protect and teach the truth of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. The Gospel values can never change because they have been established by Christ. Societal trends do not (and must not) dictate which moral persuasions the church accepts. The Roman Catholic Church is not a political machine that tries to make everyone happy and content, its purpose is to lead us to salvation. Why not write something positive and encouraging about the Catholic Church?

"Wrong is wrong even if everyone is doing it; right is right even if no-one is doing it." — St. Augustine

FRANK CAPPELLI, VIA E-MAIL

SUDOKU: HARD

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	8	2				3	5	
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8	1		7	4			2	3

Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

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BRACKET BREAKDOWN

Louisville lands No. 1 overall seed ◗ Zags, Kansas, Indiana the other No. 1s ◗ Big East leads conferences with eight teams

ALL PHOTOS: GETTY IMAGES

▶ Gonzaga's Kelly Olynyk is one of the players East Coast fans should get to know before the tournament begins.

The NCAA men's basketball tournament field of 68 was announced yesterday and, for once, much of the snub controversy seemed subdued.

The four No. 1 seeds are Louisville (29-5), Kansas (29-5), Gonzaga (31-2) and Indiana (27-6). The Cardinals are the top overall seed and landed in the Midwest region (Indianapolis), meaning they get to play the first few rounds in their own backyard. No. 4 Saint Louis (27-6, champions of Atlantic-10), and No. 3 Michigan State (25-8), appear to pose the biggest challenge to Louisville making a return trip to the Final Four.

The top opening game during the tourney's first two days could very well be No. 8 Colorado State vs. No. 9 Missouri, two teams that dominate on the glass. Higher seeds on upset alert should be No. 5 Oklahoma State, which faces No. 12 Oregon (who won the Pac-12 tournament) and No. 7 Creighton, which opposes No. 10 Cincinnati. Creighton junior forward Doug McDermott (23.1 ppg, 7.5 rebs) might be the best player in the country and could have landed the Wooden Award if his team didn't have a tailspin late in the regular season.

Gonzaga has a nice path to the Sweet 16 in the West region (Los Angeles), starting in Salt Lake City, although a matchup with No. 5 Wisconsin looms and the Badgers are always a tough out. No. 2 Ohio State and No. 3 New Mexico also appear on a collision course.

Once again, an 8-9 game provides a great matchup with Pittsburgh taking on Wichita State — two under-the-radar, but very solid, teams. No. 10 Iowa State has a great chance to beat No. 7 Notre Dame and maybe this is the year that No. 11 Belmont finally gets a win (they'll meet No. 6 Arizona).

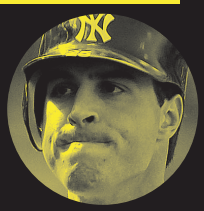
The Jayhawks were rewarded with arguably the toughest region (South), in terms of the other high seeds. Kansas begins in Kansas City and No. 2 Georgetown, No. 3 Florida, No. 4 Michigan and No. 5 VCU all have the capability to reach the Final Four.

Michigan vs. South Dakota State should be highly entertaining as Big Blue sophomore guard Trey Burke (19.2 ppg, 6.7 asts), the likely Wooden Award winner, takes on senior guard Nate Wolters (22.7 ppg, 5.8 asts, 5.6 rebs).

3 The SEC got only three teams in the 2013 NCAA tournament field. Defending champ Kentucky was one SEC team left out of the field of 68.

Rich Slate
sports@metro.us

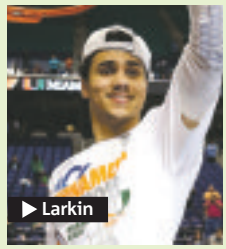
In the news



Teixeira could need surgery

The Yankees are being optimistic about Mark Teixeira's wrist injury — for now.

Teixeira admitted the injury is not a sprained wrist, but a partially torn tendon sheath in his right wrist. If he doesn't respond to rehab, season-ending surgery could be next.



▶ Larkin

There's a new Larkin to know

The Hoosiers looked like the top team for much of the season, but they kept losing when they were ranked No. 1. They are in the East region and will start things off in Dayton, Ohio.

Other than No. 2 Miami, which had a legitimate case for a No. 1 seed, the rest of the East looks pretty weak. It is Indiana's to lose, but there could be upsets.

No. 11 Bucknell meets No. 6 Butler, No. 14 Davidson could scare No. 3 Marquette and No. 10 Colorado is basically a pick 'em against No. 7 Illinois. Hurricanes point guard Shane Larkin (14.2 ppg, 4.3 asts), son of MLB Hall of Famer Barry Larkin, has been on fire lately. He led Miami to its first ACC tournament title. METRO/RS

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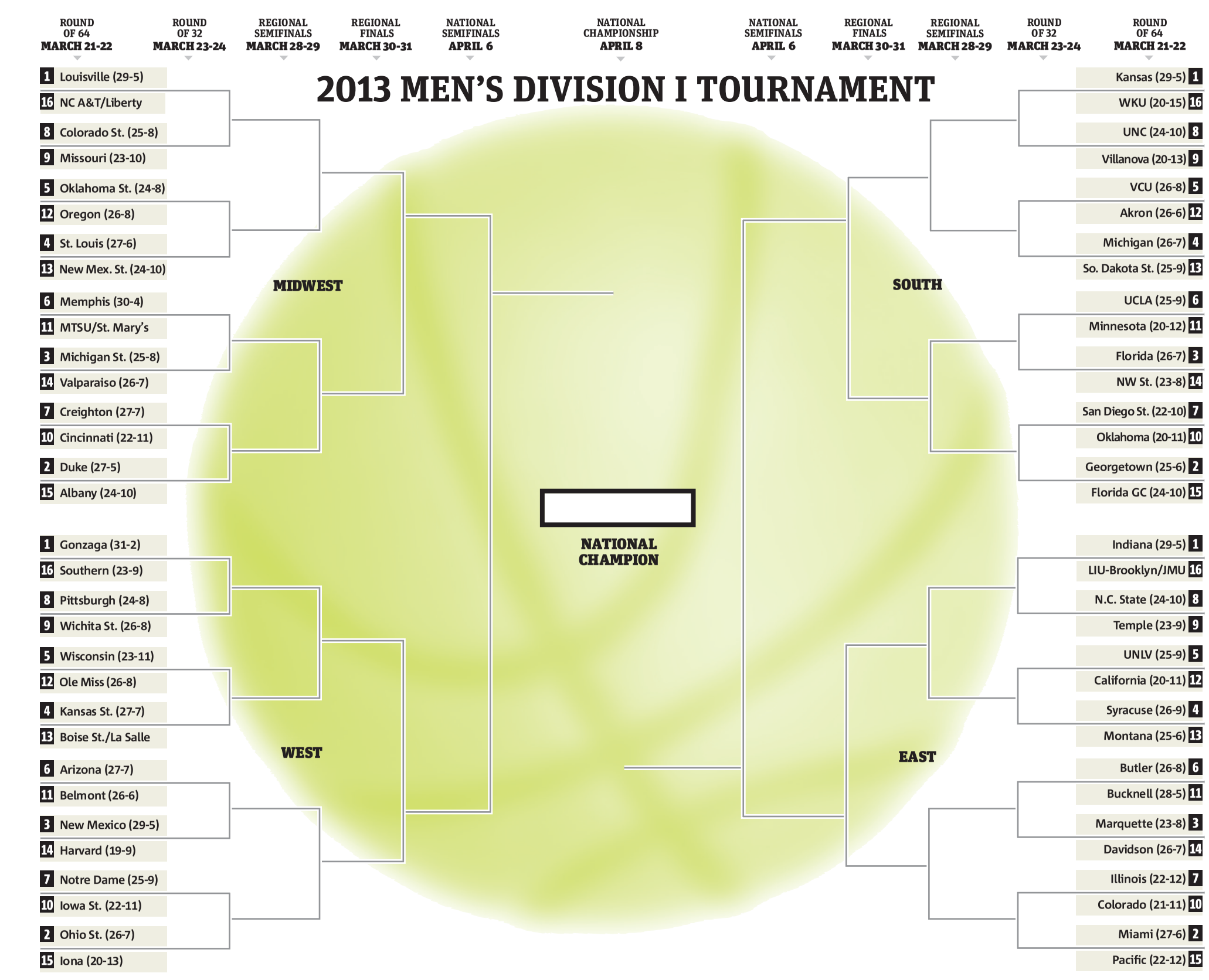

Iona heads back to dance

The Gaels made it into last year's Big Dance as literally the last team. This year they took care of business themselves by winning the MAAC.

To do so they had to eliminate local rival Manhattan. Next comes a big step up in competition as Iona secured a No. 15 seed and a matchup with West Region No. 2 Ohio State on Friday.

Last year they were placed in a play-in game, which they lost to BYU before the real dance even began. They have a different path now.

"This year, it's a lot more meaningful," senior and Harlem native Lamont "Momo" Jones told reporters after the MAAC title win. "If you told me nine months ago that this was going to be the case, I probably wouldn't have believed it."

Jones leads the team with 23 points per game. He'll be matched up with Big Ten Defensive Player of the Year Aaron Craft in one of the best battles of the Round of 64. METRO

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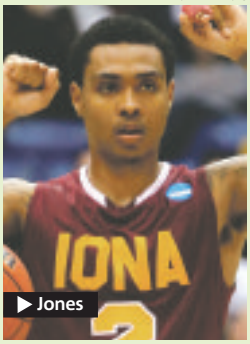
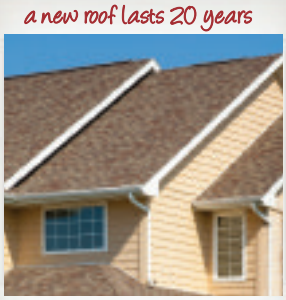


▶ Jones

Replacement windows compared to other home improvement projects:

a new roof lasts 20 years

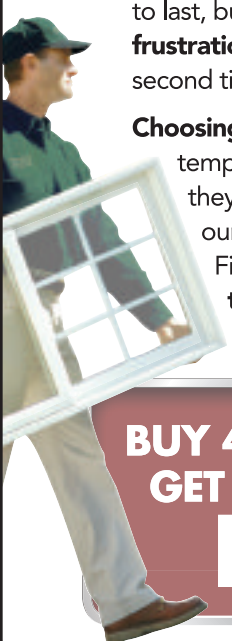


a new deck lasts 20 years

poor-quality vinyl windows

could fail in just a few years

Significant home improvements are supposed to last, but can you imagine the **expense and frustration** of replacing your windows a second time, after just a couple of years?



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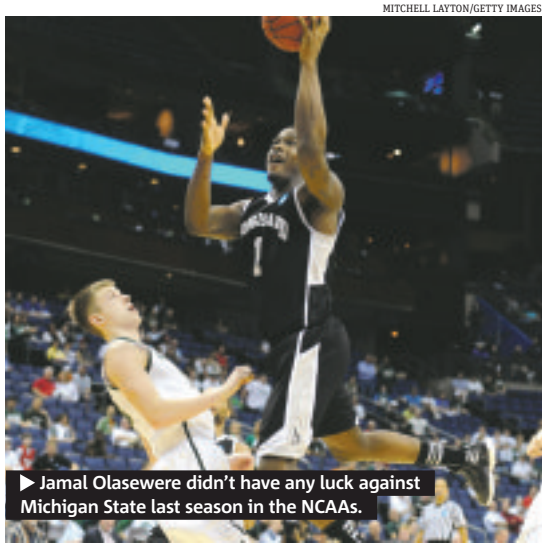

▶ Jamal Olasewere didn't have any luck against Michigan State last season in the NCAAs.

Blackbirds becoming regulars

▶ LIU keeps dominating NEC, but NCAA committee doesn't care ▶ Will open on Wednesday

The NCAA tournament is becoming old hat for LIU Brooklyn. They just didn't get any respect from the tournament selection committee because of it.

The Blackbirds won the NEC for the third straight season, but were relegated to the play-in round in Dayton, Ohio. They were given a No. 16 seed and will face CAA champions James Madison for the right to play East Region No. 1 seed Indiana.

The game will be on Wednesday at 6:40 p.m. on truTV.

They were a No. 15 seed against North Carolina in 2011 and a No. 16 seed against Michigan State last year. They dipped one rung lower this year with a spot in the play-in game.

But they aren't going to be hopelessly outmanned if they do get a shot to face Indiana. They have NEC Player of the Year Jamal Olasewere (18.9 points and 8.9 rebounds per game) and C.J. Garner, who exploded for 31 points against Mount St. Mary's in the conference tournament final.

Mark Osborne
mark.osborne@metro.us

Up north

The N.Y. contingent isn't limited to the city, as perennial NCAA contender Syracuse and this year's America East champions, Albany, also get in on the action.

▶ **No. 4 Syracuse vs. No. 13 Montana**
The Orange earned the fourth seed in the East bracket (topped by Indiana) and a meeting with the Big Sky champions. The Grizz lost to all three tournament teams they faced — South Dakota State, Colorado State and Davidson. The 'Cuse bounced back from a lousy finish in the conference tourney.

▶ **No. 2 Duke vs. No. 15 Albany**
Albany knows what it's like to play against NCAA royalty as a huge underdog after the pushed No. 1 seed UConn to the brink in 2006. They get another chance to knock off a superpower — and they'll have the whole country dying to see Duke upset. As usual, if Duke is missing 3-pointers, their opponent has a chance.

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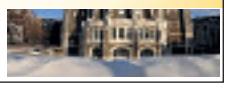

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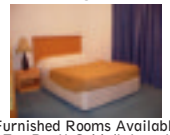
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Legal Notices

Notice of Formation of IDEA FABRIC SOLUTIONS of New York LLC. Art of Org. filed with Secy. of State of New York (SSNY) on 11/15/2011. Office location: New York County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: LLC c/o 36 East 20th Street, 2nd Fl., New York, NY 10003. Purpose: any lawful activity.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a license, serial # 1267797, for Wine & Beer has been applied for by the undersigned to sell Wine & Beer at retail under the Alcoholic Beverage Control Law at 324 East 6th St., New York, NY 10003 for on premise consumption. Kane Food Enterprises LLC.

PLACE A LEGAL/ PUBLIC NOTICE:
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(215) 717-2691 or
erin.thomson@metro.us

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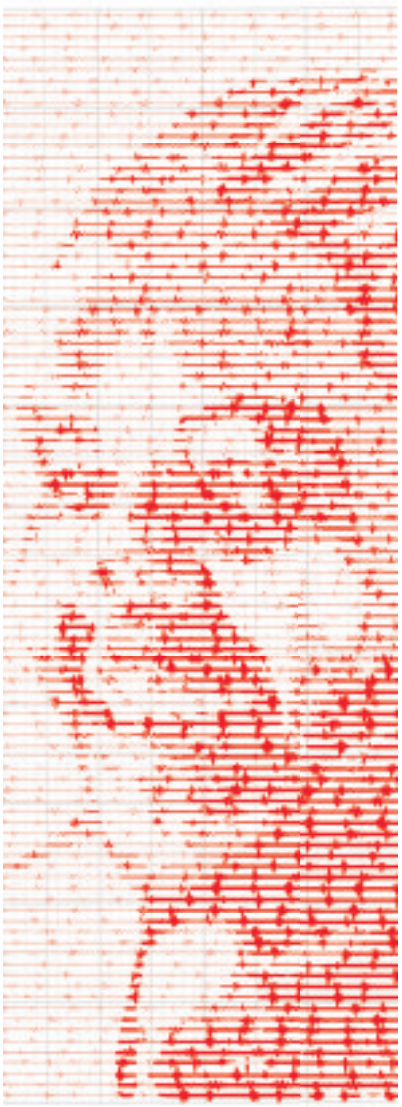

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